

# Health News Release

For immediate release: September 13, 2011 (11-134)

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#### State disciplines health care providers

**OLYMPIA** — The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Office works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 70 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "Provider Credential Search" on the left hand side of the <u>Department of Health home page</u> (www.doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

#### **Asotin County**

In August 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Erin M. Bowman** (NC10072799) with unprofessional conduct. In April 2011 she was convicted of seven counts of attempting to obtain a controlled substance through fraud.

#### **Benton County**

In August 2011 the Health Care Assistant Program ended the probation order against **Rachel A. Burt** (HC60068180).

#### **Clark County**

In August 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Mayra I. Garcia** (NA00195349) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly failed to comply with terms and conditions set against her registration.

In August 2011 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program granted the application of chemical dependency professional trainee **Christina Ann Stroup** (CO60224108) and placed her certification on probation for two years, due to convictions for possession of methamphetamine with intent to deliver — bail jumping on a class B or C felony, and possession of

Disciplinary actions September 13, 2011 Page 2

methamphetamine hydrochloride. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her certification.

## **King County**

In August 2011 the Health Care Assistant Program ended the probation order against **Courtney Renee Barr** (HC60071850), also known as Courtney Renee Kinzer.

In August 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Bart Finkbiner** (NA00153447) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly sexually abused a patient on multiple occasions.

In August 2011 the Medical Commission charged physician assistant **M. Gwendolyn Jones** (PA10004952) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly wrote or called-in prescriptions for controlled substances and other medications for non-patients including family and friends.

In August 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program granted the application of certified nursing assistant **Nicole Ann Kunz** (NC60224374) and placed her certification on probation for two years due to previous convictions of violating civil anti-harassment orders, and minor operating a vehicle after alcohol consumption. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her certification.

In August 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program reinstated the registration of nursing assistant **Jackson M. Muriuki** (NA60008337) and placed conditions against his registration.

In August 2011 the Dental Commission charged dentist **H. Melvin Olson** (DE00003488) with unprofessional conduct. Prescription practices for controlled substances that he provided to a patient allegedly fell below the standard of care, and exposed the patient to risk of harm.

In August 2011 the Secretary of Health charged registered nurse **Mary Patterson** (RN00061617) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly had sexual contact with a patient.

In August 2011 the Dental Commission charged dentist **Gerard D. Schultz** (DE00002469) with unprofessional conduct. The charges allege that he suddenly retired and abandoned his patient, failed to provide records to the patient, failed to provide patient records to the Department of Health upon request, and indicated a third party disposed of the requested records eight months after the request was made.

In August 2011 the Health Care Assistant Program denied the application of **Christina M. Strick** (HC60193206). In January 2011 her Washington registration to practice as a nursing assistant was suspended and license to practice as a health care assistant was revoked.

#### **Kitsap County**

In August 2011 the Health Care Assistant Program denied the application of **Sarah Ruth Connor** (HC60196999), due to a conviction for manufacturing marijuana. She failed to appear at her requested pre-hearing conference.

Disciplinary actions September 13, 2011 Page 3

#### **Pierce County**

In August 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program entered into an agreed order with registered nursing assistant **Patrick Crews** (NA00170767). In February 2010 he took a check without permission from a co-worker, wrote, signed and cashed the check to himself for \$350, and admitted he used the money to purchase oxycodone without a prescription. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his registration.

In August 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Kenneth Michael Lee** (NA60184667) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly left a patient unattended in a swimming pool where the patient fell and began struggling in the water, and failed to report the incident to the licensed caregiver at the facility where the patient resides.

In August 2011 the X-Ray Technician Program charged **Sickham Phouthavong** (XT00005313), also known as Sickham Phouthavoung, with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly engaged in criminal conspiracy with other persons to fraudulently obtain narcotics from various pharmacies. In December 2010 he was charged with two counts of identity theft, seven counts of obtain or attempt to obtain a controlled substance by fraud; deceit or misrepresentation, and one count of forgery. In March 2011 he was charged with leading organized crime, and two counts of identity theft.

## **Snohomish County**

In August 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified and registered nursing assistant **Lamin Sonko** (NC10045877, NA60088539) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly falsified his identity by using a credential issued in another's name and a social security number that didn't belong to him to obtain employment as a nursing assistant.

#### **Spokane County**

In August 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Judy M. Brown** (NA60017734) with unprofessional conduct, due to convictions for methamphetamine possession and assault.

In July 2011 the Emergency Medical Services and Trauma System Programs charged emergency medical technician and paramedic **Adam M. Knight** (ES01171918, ES60105344) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly diverted fentanyl for his own use from his employer.

Disciplinary actions September 13, 2011 Page 4

In August 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program granted the application of certified nursing assistant **Kristofer Alan Latta** (NC60218438) and placed conditions against his certification.

## **Walla Walla County**

In August 2011 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Lynda K. Corn** (RN00122305) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly failed to comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

#### **Whatcom County**

In August 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program granted the application of certified nursing assistant **Crystel Marie Baldwin** (NC60189415) and placed her certification on probation for two years. In 2010 terms and conditions were placed against her registration to practice as a nursing assistant.

#### **Out of State**

**Alaska:** In July 2011 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Jacqueline K. Olsen** (RN60040058) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly failed to comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

**Canada:** In August 2011 the Veterinary Board of Governors reinstated the license of veterinary technician **Hakam Singh Bhullar** (VT00004783).

**Colorado:** In August 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program reinstated the credential of certified nursing assistant **Chris Allan Coffey** (NC10040870).

**Oregon:** In August 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program reinstated the credential of certified nursing assistant **Shalonda D. Hart** (NC10088331).

**Note to Editors:** Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

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The <u>Department of Health website</u> (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.